FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Jan. 2, 2003

Contact: Lisa Posthumus (517) 373-1758

Senator Cassis Announces Committee Assignments

Senate Majority Leader Ken Sikkema Selects Novi Senator to Serve as Finance Chair, Vice Chair of Education

(LANSING) –Senator Nancy Cassis, R-Novi, announced today she will serve as chair of the Senate Finance Committee, vice-chair of the Senate Education Committee and will be a member of the Government Operations and Technology and Energy Committees for the 2003-2006 legislative session.

"I am very pleased with my committee assignments and I look forward to working with my new senate colleagues – Republicans and Democrats alike," said Cassis. "I plan on making wise, informed decisions on these committees that will benefit all residents of Michigan."

Cassis brings plenty of experience with her to the senate. She has chaired the House Tax Policy Committee for the past three years and, prior to her election to the statehouse, taught in the Ohio Public School and was later a school psychologist for seventeen years in the Novi Community School District. Senator Cassis also holds her education specialist degree from the University of Michigan.

"Nancy Cassis has the experience and knowledge that is necessary to advance the business and education issues facing Michigan today," Sikkema, R-Wyoming, said. "I am excited to select her for these positions as I have full confidence in her abilities and drive to move Michigan forward."

Cassis is active in several west Oakland County community organizations and has received numerous awards including the National Republican Legislators Association's *National Republican Legislator of the Year* award in 1999, the Michigan Credit Union League's *Legislator of the Year* award in 1999 and the Michigan Manufacturers' *House Advocate of the Year* Award in 2001.

Cassis represents the 15th Senate District, which includes most of Oakland County. She will be officially sworn into the Michigan Senate Wednesday, Jan. 8.